

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
National Foreign Assessment Center  
Office of Imagery Analysis

TCS-12982/78  
21 December 1978  
Copy A

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Strategic Research

SUBJECT : OIA's Response to OSR's Request for Consideration of  
a Cooperative Research Effort on Soviet Civil Defense  
Capabilities (U)

1. Your request cited above asks for answers to two questions:  
(a) What would it cost to provide existing data from our files for the  
planned contracted research effort? and (b) Do we think the analysis  
could be handled more effectively in-house and, if so, what additional  
commitment would we expect and be willing to make? (U)

2. We believe that regardless of who performs this research  
effort, the accuracy of data in existing files should be checked before  
it is used. We know from our own experience that information contained  
in the Target Data Inventory pertaining to industrial facilities, and in  
some cases military facilities, is not always complete or correct. This  
may also be true for other files. If the decision is made to validate  
the raw data for this study, it would have to be done within NFAC where  
other information and sources could be brought to bear. OIA is willing  
to perform the validation for industrial and military facilities re-  
gardless of who is charged with the overall research effort. We believe  
this could be accomplished concurrent with the other aspects of our  
civil defense work. We estimate that the validation would cost us about  
one-half of a manyear for the 57 cities. If the decision is to use  
unvalidated, raw data we could provide the small amount of data that is  
unique to our files at almost no cost. (S)

3. In our opinion, a multidisciplinary CIA team, composed of  
political, geographic, economic, military and imagery analysts would be  
more likely to do a quality, authoritative job. If the research effort  
were to stay within NFAC, OIA would perform the validation of raw data,  
and would be willing to assist in other appropriate ways. (C)

4. Finally, you should be aware that June 1979 is too early for  
completion of a study of the 57 cities comprising the stratified random  
sample. Because of long shadows and snow cover, imagery collection  
against the cities north of 50 degrees has been deactivated until

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1 April. This was done in coordination with OSR and the participating PI organizations. We are presently concentrating on cities south of 50 degrees. We do not expect analysis of all 57 cities to be completed before the end of August. (TSR)



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Noel E. Firth  
Director  
Imagery Analysis

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